

1918, were, in round numbers, \$800,000,000, or about twice the cost of the Panama Canal. The per cent of the total which was allotted to various purposes is shown in diagram 24. The largest single item is the cost of National Army cantonments which was nearly one-quarter of the total.











	Millions of Dollars	Per Cent of Total	
National Army cantonments	199	24	
Ordnance Dept. projects	163	20	
Miscel. camps and cantonments	139	17	
Quartermaster Corps projects	137	16	
National Guard camps	74	9	
Hospitals	23	3	
Regular Army posts	22	3	
Coast Artillery posts	13	2	
Aviation and Signal Corps projects	8	1	
Other construction	40	5	
Total	818		

Diagram 24.—Costs of construction projects in the United States.

Ordnance Department projects, including the building of enormous powder, high-explosive, and loading plants, come second.

The costs of construction were probably higher than they would have been for slower work. The outstanding feature of the accomplishment was its rapidity. Each of the cantonments was completed in substantially 90 days. It was this speed that made it possible to get the draft army under training before the winter of 1917 set in and made it available just in time for the critical action of the summer of 1918.

#### CONSTRUCTION IN THE A. E. F.

The conduct of the war in France necessitated a construction program comparable in magnitude and number of projects